

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An improved wheeled carriage having a triangular frame and [a plurality of] three wheel assemblies at least a forward directed one of which wheel assemblies is a caster wheel assembly, the improvement comprising:

a caster wheel support assembly for said caster wheel assembly, said support assembly comprising a rotatable caster pivot shaft, one end of which retains [a] at least one rotatable wheel and a second end of which extends through a bearing housing, said caster pivot shaft defining a radial index aperture positioned on the cylindrical surface of said caster pivot shaft;

a retractable retention pin positioned proximate to said radial index aperture in said caster pivot shaft and alternately movable between a position engaging said aperture and a position removed from said aperture;

a mechanical linkage comprising a longitudinally moveable control cable [mechanically connected] fixed at a proximal end thereof to said retractable retention pin; and

a manually operable remote release mechanism [mechanically connected to] attached to said mechanical linkage and fixed at a distal end of said longitudinally moveable control cable in a manner that directs the longitudinal movement of said control cable and thereby the longitudinal movement of said retention pin in a manner that alternately introduces or removes said retention pin from said aperture.

2. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin further comprises a spring that preferences the retention pin to be introduced into said aperture unless said [control cable] mechanical linkage operates against the force of said spring to remove said retention pin from said aperture.

3. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a hand operated lever assembly that by lever motion pulls said control cable of said mechanical linkage in a longitudinal direction that removes said retention pin from said aperture.

4. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin is positioned proximate to said aperture in said caster pivot shaft and is enclosed within a pin housing attached to said bearing housing, said control cable of said mechanical linkage extending through an aperture in said cylindrical pin housing to its point of mechanical connection with said retention pin.

5. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism is positioned on a user accessible portion of said wheeled carriage so as to allow a user to maintain manual control over said wheeled carriage during operation of said remote release mechanism.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a locking means such that the remote release mechanism may be mechanically [fixed] set by the user to maintain the remote release mechanism in an actuated condition such that said retention pin is removed from said aperture without requiring a sustained retention of the user's hand on the remote release mechanism.

8. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said retention pin further comprises a spring that preferences the retention pin to be removed from said aperture unless said [control cable] mechanical linkage operates against the force of said spring to introduce said retention pin into said aperture.

9. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a hand operated lever assembly that by lever motion pulls said control cable of said mechanical linkage in a longitudinal direction that introduces said retention pin into said aperture.

10. (currently amended) The improved wheeled carriage of Claim 1 wherein said remote release mechanism comprises a locking means such that the remote release mechanism may be mechanically [fixed] set by the user to maintain the remote release mechanism in an actuated condition such that said retention pin is introduced into said aperture without requiring a sustained retention of the user's hand on the remote release mechanism.